

**Sowing of rabi crop**

†1801 SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:  
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that sowing of wheat in the country for rabi crop during the current year has been completed;
- (b) if so, whether Government have made any estimate of wheat production in the ensuing season;
- (c) if so, the total quantity of wheat estimated to be produced; and
- (d) the estimated rate of production of wheat in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir. Sowing of wheat is in progress. As per the reports received in the Crop Weather Watch Group meeting, the area covered under wheat sowing till 1st December 2006 stands at 154.21 lakh hectares.

- (b) The advance estimate of wheat production for the year 2006-07 would be due for release in January 2007
- (c) and (d) Do not arise.

**Land under wheat cultivation**

†1802. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:  
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that 45 per cent more land have been brought under wheat cultivation for rabi crop in the country in comparison to previous year;
- (b) if so, the facts in this regard;
- (c) the extent of land being used for wheat cultivation in wheat producing States *i.e.* Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar, etc. respectively and to what extent quantum is more in comparison to previous year; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.